



## **Folsom Lake State Recreation Area General Plan/Resource Management Plan Update**

### **Trail Stakeholders Meeting #1** April 30, 2003, 6:30-9:30pm

#### **Summary Notes**

These notes summarize the public comment and input received at the first trails stakeholder meeting on the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area General Plan/Resource Management Plan Update. The purpose of this meeting was to begin to work toward specific recommendations for trails in the Unit. These recommendations will be reviewed and finalized at a second trail stakeholders meeting to be held in late July or early August. The meeting participants were broken into four small discussion groups to consider a series of prepared questions related to trail character, new facilities, trail maintenance, and use and enforcement.

#### **Trail Character/Designation Criteria**

1. Please describe the ideal qualities and physical characteristics that you associate with each of the following trail types (equestrian, mountain bike, paved Class I, multi-use). Qualities and characteristics may include factors such as landscape type, slope, location, trail standards, etc.

##### **Equestrian trails**

- Natural surface with good drainage
- Single track okay with occasional turnouts
- Grade changes okay and should follow natural contours
- Good sightlines with loose radius bends
- Covered trail surface through wet/marshy areas
- Vegetation trimming to 10 feet vertical and 4 feet horizontal
- Mile markers
- Accommodate range of ability

##### **Mountain bike trails**

- Natural surface with good drainage
- Single track okay (3-5 feet wide)
- Grade changes/surface variations preferred (technical features)
- Good sightlines with loose radius bends
- Rolling grade dip preferred instead of water bows
- Vegetation trimming to 4 feet horizontal (especially at bends)
- Mile markers
- Accommodate range of ability

### **Paved Class I trails**

- Pavement 8-12 feet wide (rubberized asphalt preferred)
- DG shoulders for runners/walkers 2 feet wide
- Good sightlines (100 feet minimum) with loose radius bends
- Slight grade changes okay
- Striping (preferably reflective) to designate lanes
- Signage for mile markers, side paths, access points, landmarks
- Good connections to city/county trails

### **Multi-use trails**

- Natural surface okay but must be relatively smooth with good drainage
- Good sightlines with loose radius bends and wider ROW in busy areas
- Single track okay (3-5 feet wide)
- Parallel paths preferred on slopes (horse above bike) and steep grades
- Step-off/passing area on single track segments
- Control speeds (limit straight-aways, introducing turns, use natural features/obstacles)
- Signage for mile markers, trail splits/merging, use rules/etiquette

2. Which existing trail corridors in the park are most suitable for multi-use?
  - Folsom Point to Brown's Ravine
  - Brown's Ravine to Old Salmon Falls (and on to Sweetwater)
  - Beals Point to Granite Bay
  - Granite Bay to Beeks Bight/Dotons
3. Given that the park has finite resources, in addition to the characteristics identified above, what factors should guide future decisions regarding trail use designations in the park (e.g. historical use, equity...)?
  - Equity
  - Cost
  - Environmental impact
  - Safety
  - Population density/proximity to development

### **New Trail Facilities**

1. Identify specific new trail facilities needed in the park.
  - Folsom Lake loop
  - Lake Natoma loop
  - Peninsula to Wild Goose Flat/Olmstead Loop/Cool
  - Class I Beals to Granite Bay
  - Folsom Dam link (Park headquarters to Folsom Point)
  - Close Lake Natoma Inn gap
  - Mississippi Bar multi-use
  - Formal at Twin Rocks, Horseshoe Bar, Lakehills Estates, and New York Creek
  - Hoffman property designations/improvements
  - Toilets/water at Brown's Ravine, Old Salmon Falls/Falcon Crest, and Rattlesnake Bar
  - Equestrian camping at Peninsula, Rattlesnake Bar, Monte Vista

- Trail bridge on North Fork
  - Hitching rails in equestrian staging areas
2. Designate the appropriate use for each new trail segment identified (e.g., equestrian, mountain bike, Class I, multi-use).
    - New trail segments identified were not specifically designated.
  3. For each category of new facilities, identify priorities for implementation.
    - Only one of the discussion groups assigned a priority to new facilities/implementation. As such, the facilities listed in question one are not listed in order of priority.

## **Trail Maintenance**

1. Identify general maintenance issues associated with trail facilities in Folsom Lake SRA.
  - Downed trees and vegetation overgrowth in less-used areas
  - Poor drainage/rutting in wet areas
  - Sweeping of Class I paved trails
  - Vegetation/poison oak clearance
  - Water crossings/foot bridges
2. Identify specific locations where maintenance is a persistent issue, and what the issue is.
  - Trouble spots include: sandy runoff at bottom of hill below park headquarters; flooding of Folsom Dam Road undercrossing; rough pavement new boat ramp at Negro Bar; poor pavement at residential undercrossing near Oak Avenue; most of Pioneer Trail;
3. In light of current State budget and State Parks staffing constraints, identify creative approaches to providing adequate trail maintenance.
  - Adopt-a-trail program (enlist local companies)
  - Trail maintenance day for community/user group volunteers
  - Coordinate trail work with existing organizations, i.e. American River Parkway Foundation
  - Coordinate trail work with existing user groups and neighbors
  - Additional trash receptacles
  - Apply fees for trail-related events
  - Hire a trail coordinator
  - Set aside funds specifically for trail maintenance
  - Establish non-profit group/foundation to raise money and coordinate trail work

## **Trail Use and Enforcement**

1. What steps (e.g., physical improvements, programmatic, organizational, etc.) can be taken to improve the quality of trail use in Folsom Lake SRA?
  - Establish alternate use days on busy trail segments
  - Stepped up enforcement -- use and leash laws

2. How can State Parks increase awareness of trail etiquette and the needs of different types of trail users among all trail users and promote a shared trail user community?
  - Combine equestrian and bike patrol
  - Provide information kiosks (could be staffed by volunteers) at major trailheads
  - Improved signage with rules of etiquette
  - Establish enforceable rules
  - Stepped up enforcement
  - Ticketing
3. In light of current State budget and State Parks staffing constraints, identify priorities for education, patrol/presence and enforcement of appropriate trail use, rules and regulations.
  - Provide detailed trail maps and use guidelines
  - Combine equestrian and bike patrol
  - Volunteer patrols
  - Increase ranger staffing